

REMARKS

Claims 4-6 were rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 4-6 have been amended to depend on claim 1 and this should overcome the rejection.

Claims 7-10 and 12 remain withdrawn. Claims 1-2, 4-6 and 13-15 are pending.

Claims 1, 5-6, 13 and 15 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hosokawa et al (US 2003/0018218) in view of Liao et al (US 2003/0152801).

There may be some confusion about Applicants' invention. Alloys of different metals have been known to be effective as electrodes. Typically, when two different metals are desired to be used, they are co-evaporated from different boats. It is true that it would be simpler to use a single boat. However, Applicants recognized that most materials cannot be effectively be co-evaporated from a single boat because it is impossible to accurately control the composition ratio. What has been discovered is that when a plurality of evaporation materials includes metal or metal compounds and the difference between the vapor pressures are within two orders of magnitude at a specified temperature, an electrode of uniform and controlled composition can be formed using a single evaporation source or boat. This provides a significant advantage over the prior art and Applicants believe they were the first to discover this important feature.

The Examiner points to Hosokawa et al as having devices with electrodes of metal alloys such as Al/Au or Al/Ag and admits there is no teaching or suggestion of using a single evaporation source for the evaporation of both individual metals together. Liao et al teaches (in [0004]) that the formation of Mg alloy cathodes requires two separate evaporation sources and points out that a single source would be less complicated *but does not teach how to accomplish this*. The Mg/Ag or Mg/Al alloys described in Liao et al cannot be effectively used in a single evaporation source or boat since the difference between vapor pressure for either of these combinations are more than 5 orders of magnitude (see www.veeco.com/images/library/vaporpress1B_large.jpg and www.veeco.com/images/library/vaporpress2B_large.jpg). Dr. Liao, a co-inventor in this case and the co-inventor of the cited art, states at the time of filing the cited

reference, that he did not know the difference in vapor pressure between metals would be an important feature that permits the use of a single source or boat. Moreover, he believes that this discovery would not have been obvious to anyone skilled in the art at the time of filing the present application.

Accordingly, it is believed there are no teachings or suggestions in either Hosokawa et al or Liao et al alone or in combination that teach or suggest the specific solution of using of only metals whose vapor pressures are within two orders of magnitude in a single evaporation source. This discovery is believed to be unobvious.

Claims 1, 4-6, 13 and 15 were rejected under 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grace et al (US 2002/0196401) in view of Hosokawa '218 and Liao '801.

Hosokawa '218 and Liao '801 have been discussed above. Grace '401 teaches the use of metal alloys, including inventive combinations, as electrodes in display devices. The Examiner admits that Grace '401 does not teach that the metals for the alloy can be placed in a single evaporation source. Thus, even with the addition of Grace '401, there still are no teachings or suggestions in these combined references that lead to the specific use of only metals whose vapor pressures are within two orders of magnitude in a single evaporation source.

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hosokawa '218 and Liao '801 (also including Grace '401) in view of Yamamoto et al (US 6179923).

Hosokawa '218, Liao '801 and Grace '401 have been discussed above. Yamamoto '923 teaches the use of a shutter to start and stop the deposition of material from a controlled heated source but does not teach or suggest the feature of using metals whose vapor pressures are within two orders of magnitude in a single evaporation source. Thus, there still are no teachings or suggestions in these combined references that leads to features of claim 1 on which claim 2 depends.

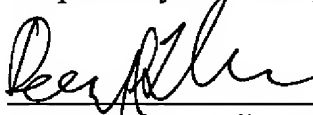
Claim 14 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hosokawa '218 and Liao '801 (also including Grace '401) in view of Yamazaki et al (US 2003/0162314).

Hosokawa '218, Liao '801 and Grace '401 have been discussed above. Yamazaki '314 teaches a single evaporation source with multiple compartments that each contains a separate material but does not teach or suggest the feature of using metals whose vapor pressures are within two orders of magnitude. Thus, there still are no teachings or suggestions in these combined references that leads to features of claims 1 and 13 on which claim 14 depends.

It is believed that these changes now make the claims clear and definite and, if there are any problems with these changes, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed none of the references, taken singly or in combination, disclose or make obvious the claimed invention. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, the notice of which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.